

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 SPM-01 SWF-02 SSO-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INRE-00 IO-14 IGA-02

SP-03 PC-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /126 W

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O P 251145Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9037

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BAMAKO 1347

AFDROUGHT

FOR EASUM AND DR ADAMS FROM AMBASSADOR

E O 11652 N A

TAGS: EAID, ML, US

SUBJ: TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT FOR SAHEL

REF: STATE 110565 NIAMEY 1638

1. IG TODD'S RECOMMENDATION RE CAB WAIVERS FOR C-130'S AROSE FROM DISCUSSION OF EMERGENCY NEEDS OF VARIOUS SORTS IN MALI, INCLUDING EMBASSY-CAVIN RECOMMENDATION TO USE C-130'S TO TRANSPORT INSECTICIDE FOR USE AGAINST POSSIBLE LOCUST OUTBREAK. IG FELT IT WAS ANOMOLOUS FOR C-130'S TO FLY EMPTY TO BAMAKO WHEN EMERGENCY NEEDS HERE SO GREAT AND VARIED. FOR EXAMPLE, THERE MIGHT BE NEED FOR ROOFING MATERIAL FOR COVERED STORAGE, AND COMMERICAL SHIPMENT WOULD INVOLVE UNDUE DELAYS. WE IN EMBASSY ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH REGULATIONS GOVERNING USE OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT CIVILIAN CARGOES, BUT IG, WHO IS KNOWLEDGEABLE SUCH MATTERS, FELT THAT A WAIVER WOULD BE NECESSARY. INTENT, THEREFORE, WAS TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY FOR C-130'S COMING FROM CONUS TO CARRY WHATEVER WAS DETERMINED TO BE NECESSARY. RECOMMENDATION IN NO WAY RELATED TO AIR MALI BOEING 727.

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2. IF DID NOT DICUSS PERSONNEL CARRIERS WITH EMBASSY, BUT HE DID MEET WITH GOM OFFICIALS IN TIMBUKTU ENROUTE TO NIAMEY. WE DO NOT YET HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THOSE CONVERSATIONS, BUT ASSUME RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL CARRIERS AROSE FROM THOSE DISCUSSIONS. I WILL CONTACT DOUKARA ASAP AND TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND.

3. TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS IN GENERAL, IG DISCUSSED SITUATION IN GENERAL TERMS WITH DOUKARA, WHO SAID HE COULD USE MORE TRUCKS, AND EMPHASIZED DIFFICULT NATURE OF ROADS, AND CONSEQUENT HIGH ATTRITION RATE OF HIS TRUCKS. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH US, IG, WHO WAS FAMILIAR WITH PROBLEM OF DESOTOS, SAID HE BELIEVED SERVICEABLE US MILITARY TRUCKS MIGHT BE OBTAINABLE IN EUROPE AND COULD BE MOVED HERE RAPIDLY. HIS FEELING WAS THAT ANYTHING THAT COULD BE DONE TO REDUCE AIRLIFT REQUIREMENTS THIS YEAR AND POSSIBLY AVOID AIRLIFT NEXT YEAR SHOULD BE DONE. WE DID NOT DISCUSS NUMBERS REQUIRED, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT THERE HAD BEEN 36 DESOTOS. NEITHER DID WE DISCUSS NEED FOR AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL, THOUGH GIVEN UNFAMILIARITY OF MALIANS WITH AMERICAN MILITARY VEHICLES, SOME MAINTENANCE TRAINING PROVISION WOULD PRESUMABLY HAVE TO BE MADE.

4. IG INTENDS TO DISCUSS THIS ENTIRE QUESTION ON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON.
MCGUIRE

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Message Attributes

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